GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4838
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2003
SYSTEMIC DEFICIENCIES AND PROCEDURAL LAPSES IN DD BILLING
VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a): whether the Government have taken note that despite increase in Viewership, programme production centres and Transmitters, gross earning of Doordarshan had declined from Rs.572.70 crores during 1996-97 to Rs.400.00 crore during 1998-99.

(b): if so, whether it was due to systemic deficiencies and procedural lapses;

(c): if so, whether persistent irregularities in the trading of commercial time and failure to observe standard commercial practice undermine the weakness of the system;

(d) if so, whether the Government have also taken note of numerous deficiencies like raising of Bills without telecast certificates, wrong billing, poor monitoring of dues realisation in the system;

(e): if so, the facts thereof; and

(f): the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to avoid such lapses in future and losses to Doordarshan ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATIN AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (f): C&AG (Comptroller and Auditor General of India) in Para No.3.2 of his reportNo.2 of 2002 (Civil) for the year ended March 2001 has pointed out that gross earnings of Doordarshan had declined from Rs. 572.72 crores in 1996-97 to Rs.399.09 crore in 1998-99 despite increase in Programme Production Centres, Transmitters andViewership. In the same report, C&AG have mentioned that the Audit review of the billing practice in Doordarshan revealed systemic deficiencies and procedural lapses, non maintenance of basic records in a proper manner etc. C&AG Para is under examinationof the Ministry in consultation with Prasar Bharati.